**REMARKS** 

Applicants note that all of the claims of the above-identified application had

been allowed, but that a Request for Continued Examination is being filed herewith in

order to permit two minor changes to the claims to be made pursuant to the foregoing

Preliminary Amendment. Specifically, the term --silicon carbide-- has been added to the

lists of substances as presented in Claim 25 and 29. This change in the claims is supported

in Applicants' Specification at the paragraph bridging Pages 44 and 45 thereof. At this

portion of the Specification the movable member is defined as being formed by SiC; that

is, silicon carbide. For this reason, independent Claim 25 and dependent Claim 29 have

been revised as described above.

The claims in this Preliminary Amendment have been presented in the form

in which they were allowed, wherefore it is requested that the interim filed Rule 312

Amendment, which has not yet been acted on, should be ignored in view of the

contemporaneously filed Request for Continued Examination.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by

telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our

address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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